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P R E S S R E L E A S E

Richard S. Thompson, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, announced today that **Anthony V. Coneway, age 29, from Dublin, Georgia** was convicted by a jury in United States District Court in Augusta on December 10, 2002. The trial was presided over by Chief Judge Dudley H. Bowen. Coneway was convicted of three drug counts, including:

- 1) conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute and to distribute cocaine hydrochloride, and 50 grams or more of cocaine base, also known as "crack" cocaine;
- 2) distribution of cocaine;
- 3) distribution of 50 grams or more of cocaine base, or "crack" cocaine.

Coneway was acquitted of one count of the indictment which charged him with possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. The defendant will be sentenced upon the completion of a pre-sentence investigation report. A sentencing date has not been set.

Coneway was one of fourteen defendants named United States v. Cedric V. Baldwin, et al. CR 302-05. Each of the other defendants pleaded guilty to drug charges prior to trial and all are awaiting sentencing.

The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Laurens County Sheriff's Office. The United States was represented by Assistant United States Attorney Karl Knoche.